

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 10-12 and 15 have been canceled and respectively corresponding claims 22-25 have been added. Claims 22-24 are identical to canceled claims 10-12 except that they depend on claims 17, 20, and 6, respectively, instead of claim 8. Claim 25 is identical to claim 15 except that it depends on claim 18 instead of claim 13.

Claims 1-9, 13-14, and 16-25 are pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, the application is objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.172(a) for lack of written consent of all assignees.

The objection is respectfully traversed. There is no assignee in the present application.

Next, in the Office Action, it is requested that the declaration state that all errors which are being corrected in the reissue application up to the time of filing the declaration arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

A corresponding substitute declaration is submitted with this paper.

Next, in the Office Action, claims 1-21 are rejected as based upon a defective declaration under 35 U.S.C. 251.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested based on the substitute declaration which is submitted with this paper.

Next, in the Office Action, claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 251 as being broadened.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. Claims 10-12 and 15 have been canceled and respectively new claims 22-25 have been added as suggested in the Office Action.

Serial Number: 10/780,549

Application for Reissue of U.S. Patent No. 6,257,893

Group Art Unit: 3713

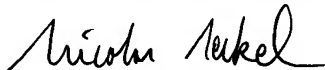
Next, in the Office Action, it is indicated that the original patent must be received before the reissue application can be allowed.

This requirement is moot in view of the changes to 37 C.F.R. 1.148 (see 1287 O.G. 67, 69 Fed. Reg. 56481 dated September 21, 2004).

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Atty. Docket No. 990304RI**

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